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RODOMONTADES

THE BRIMMING CUP

I do not drink in sorrow, but in the purest joy.
  Man in holy melancholy sits alone with grief.
Only in glorious madness am I the drunken boy,
  Pouring green flasks of liquid sun, and dancing like a leaf.

I leap in zenith revelry, I spit upon my past.
  My thundering heels strike ringing sparks from cobble-
    stones,
Like little stars to nick off the minutes flying fast.
  Ah, I am only drunken when joy laughs in my bones!

COMPENSATIONS

You came with Judith's flashing eye
  And artlessness grown art.
Oh, most notorious perfidy!—
  You took both head and heart.

Yet Time bore compensations sweet:
  My age upon your youth
Is warm as Father Boaz' feet
  Upon the breasts of Ruth.